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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/073,972	02/14/2002	Tomokazu Murakami	H-1026	4933

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EXAMINER

JOO, JOSHUA

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2154

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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09/21/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/073,972	Applicant(s) MURAKAMI ET AL.	
	Examiner Joshua Joo	Art Unit 2154	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 July 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 10, 11, 15-17, 19, 20, 24 and 25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 10-11, 15-17, 19-20, 24-25 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to:
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 02 February 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Detailed Action

Response to Communication dated 07/10/2007

1. Claims 10-11, 15-17, 19-20, 24-25 are presented for examination.

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

2. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 07/10/2007 has been entered.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 10-11, 15-17, 19-20, 24-25 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection. New ground(s) of rejection are necessitated by Applicant's amendment.

Claim Objections

4. Claims 10-11, 15-17 are objected to because of the following informalities:
 - i) Regarding claims 10 and 17, "said displayed image" lacks sufficient antecedent basis and will be considered as "said image of content displayed".
 - ii) Regarding claim 10, "said first display device" lacks sufficient antecedent basis since the claim recites "a first display". "said first display device" will be considered as "said first display".

Appropriate correction is required.

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Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

5. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

6. Claims 10-11, 15-16, 19-20, 24-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

- i) Regarding claim 10, in the phrase, "said sending unit sends a second identification information", the terms, "said sending unit" lacks sufficient antecedent basis since the claim comprises a "first sending unit" and a "second sending unit". "said sending unit" in the phrase will be considered as "said second sending unit."
- ii) Regarding claims 10, 17, and 19, "said stored reference" lacks sufficient antecedent basis.
- iii) Regarding claims 15, it is not clear as to what "its" is referring to in the claim. Furthermore, "the keyword ID" and "the associated keyword ID" lack sufficient antecedent basis.
- iv) Regarding claim 24, it is not clear as to what "its" is referring to in the claim. Furthermore, "the keyword ID" and "the associated keyword ID" lack sufficient antecedent basis.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. Claims 10, 17, and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sarachik et al. US Patent #6,816,628 (Sarachik hereinafter), in view of Tomsen et al. US Publication #2002/0083464 (Tomsen hereinafter).

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9. As per claims 10, 17, and 19, Sarachik teaches substantially the invention as claimed including a system for providing information across a computer network, said system comprising:

an information registering device which includes a first display, a first positioning device and a first sending unit, said first display device displays an image of content rendered by a media, said first positioning device indicates a first object in said displayed image on said first display (col. 4, lines 38-40. Load video data. col. 4, lines 42-44. Designer selects portions of a video image to associate with screen annotations.), and said sending unit sends a first identification information containing a first object information relevant to said first desired object, a first keyword information entered by a user and a first reference information relevant to said content rendered by media (col. 4, lines 43-49. Assign textual information about object, marker of shirt, price, and name. Additional textual information. col. 4, lines 50-60; col. 10, lines 39-47. Range over which objects appear. Information regarding location and shape of shirt stored as data structure. col. 5, lines 1-14. Time stamp data and frame identifier inputted. Col. 10, lines 48-57. Generate mask, which represents location information such as by number in fixed relation. col. 11, lines 1-7, 33-35. Mask is associated with UID, timestamp, object mapping table. Object properties table.) to said computer network (col. 5, lines 25-30, 39-44. Annotation object data transferred to database. Col. 7, line 55-57. Annotation data may be stored in memory of receiver.);

an information viewing device which includes a second display, a second positioning device and a second sending unit, said second display displays an image of content rendered by a media, said second positioning device indicates a second desired object in said displayed image on said second display (col. 9, lines 35-39; col. 13, line 39-41. Viewer identify an item of interest using a device.), and said sending unit sends a second identification information containing a second object information relevant to said second desired object (col. 11, lines 21-24. Object mapping table includes a region number for each identified region. col. 13, line 39-41. Locate object properties table via object mapping table.); and

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a database which receives said first identification information, said first keyword information and said first reference information from said information registering device through said computer network, links said first reference information with said first identification information and said first keyword information, stores said first reference information, and adds said first reference information to reference information stored before (col. 5, lines 25-30, 39-44. Annotation object data transferred to database. Col. 7, line 55-57. Annotation data may be stored in memory of receiver. col. 11, lines 32-35. Object properties table stores references to the information about an object. It is inherent that information for more than one object may be stored.),

wherein after said database receives said second identification information from said information viewing device through said computer network, said database searches for reference information linked with both said identification information among said stored reference information including said first reference information, and sends said reference information linked with both said second identification information to said information viewing device through said computer network (col. 5, lines 41-43, 48-52. Access annotation object data stored on the database when requested by the viewer. col. 13, lines 40-44. Locate object properties table via the object mapping table.); and

wherein said information viewing device receives said reference information from said database through said computer network and displays said reference information on said second display (col. 13, lines 45-56. Display a primary dialog table that includes price and series of choices.).

10. Sarachik teaches of receiving object identification information to retrieve information regarding the object. Sarachik does not specifically teach of a second keyword entered by another user to said computer network; second keyword information from an information viewing device; and searching reference information linked with both second identification and second keyword information among stored reference information; and sending the reference information linked with both said second

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identification information and said second keyword information to said information viewing device through said computer network.

Tomsen teaches of a similar system for retrieving information from a television broadcast, comprising: receiving second identification and second keyword information from an information viewing device (fig. 6. Paragraphs 0072; 0082. Request includes keyword, channel identifier, time index, etc...); searching reference information linked with both second identification and second keyword information among stored reference information (Paragraphs 0077-0078. Identify content based on time index. Paragraph 0082. Content source searches based on keywords.); and sending the reference information linked with both said second identification information and said second keyword information to said information viewing device through said computer network (fig. 7. 406b. Paragraph 0086. Supplemental content from time index and keywords. Paragraph 0092. Send search results.).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Sarachik and Tomsen for the second identification from the information viewing device as taught by Tomsen to be sent with a second keyword information; search reference information linked with both second identification and second keyword information among stored reference information; and sending the reference information linked with both said second identification information and said second keyword information to said information viewing device through said computer network. The motivation for the suggested combination is that Tomsen's teachings would allow searching of content based on different identification data and provide content based on finer granularity (Paragraph 0086).

11. Sarachik and Tomsen teach of a request comprising keyword information. However, Sarachik and Tomsen do not specifically teach of a user entering the keyword information.

Zernik teaches a similar system for an interactive television system, wherein a viewer can enter search query in the form of text (keyword information) to the Internet (Paragraphs 0040; 0076) and match the query to keywords on a web page (Paragraph 0063).

12. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the suggested system of Sarachik and Tomsen with the teachings of Zernik for keywords in the request taught by the system to comprise keywords that a viewer enters as taught by Zernik. The motivation for the suggested combination is Zernik's teachings would allow a user to customize or specify the keyword search, which may allow responses more pertinent to user requests, and allow the user to conveniently retrieve additional information regarding a program (Paragraph 0076).

13. Claims 11 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sarachik, Tomsen, and Zernik, in view of Arsenault et al, US Patent #6,925,650 (Arsenault hereinafter).

14. As per claims 11 and 20, Sarachik does not specifically teach the system for providing information, wherein said database sends a stored keyword list prior to receiving said second keyword information from said information viewing device in response to inquiry made from said information viewing device.

Arsenault teaches of sending a stored keyword list prior to receiving a second keyword from the viewer in response to inquiry made from the viewer (col. 11, line 64 – col. 12, line 11; col. 16, lines 55-65; col. 17, lines 11-31).

15. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the suggested system of Sarachik, Tomsen, and Zernik with the teachings of Arsenault to send a stored keyword list prior to receiving a second keyword from the viewer in response to inquiry made from the viewer. The motivation for the suggested combination is that Arsenault's teachings would

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enhance the user-friendliness of the system by allowing the viewer to efficiently select possible keywords to identify objects of interest.

16. Claims 15-16 and 24-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sarachik, Tomsen, and Zernik, in view of Abrahams US Publication #2002/0120934

17. As per claims 15 and 24, Sarachik teaches the system for providing information as recited in claim 10, wherein said database comprises:

a keyword table which has at least an ID field for uniquely identifying a record entry and a keyword field to contain the first keyword, wherein one record entry includes at least its ID and a keyword (fig. 5-2. "235". UID 232323. String Sportscap. Object properties table has 232323);

a reference information table which has at least an ID field for uniquely identifying a record entry (fig. 5-2. Object properties table. 103124), a reference information field containing the first reference information (fig. 5-2. 222'. Price), and a keyword ID field to containing the keyword ID associated with the reference information (fig. 5-2. 221'. 232323), wherein one record entry includes at least its ID, reference information, and the associated keyword ID (fig. 5-2. 103124. 232323);

a target image object table which has at least an ID field for uniquely identifying a record entry (fig. 5-2. 217. UID 01234.), and an link ID field containing the ID of reference information linked with the object (fig. 5-2. Object mapping table comprises UID 103124.), wherein one record entry includes at least its ID, media information, and the ID of reference information linked with the object (fig. 5-2. 217. Object number 2. UID 103124).

18. Sarachik does not specifically teach of time and frame field containing information to identify media information.

Abrahams teaches a similar system for interactive television comprising of time and frame information (Paragraphs 0047-0048).

19. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the suggested system of Sarachik, Tomsen, and Zernik with the teachings of Abrahams to comprise time and frame information. The motivation for the suggested combination is that Abrahams' teachings would provide additional identification to allow matching of selection information to accurately identify and display information.

20. As per claims 16 and 25, Sarachik teaches the system for providing information, wherein: said content rendered by media is video image information distributed by TV broadcasting (col. 3, lines 30-34. Television broadcast.); said first identification information further includes at least any of a broadcasting channel over which the content was or will be broadcasted, receiving area, specified time length (col. 5, lines 1-10. Timestamp data. Timing information.); said first keyword information includes at least any of a keyword, keyword ID number, keyword type, specified time length, time when the keyword was registered, and a number of times the keyword has been selected as user preference (col. 4, lines 45-50. Name of distributor, maker of shirt, textual information. col. 11, 44-45. Name of shirt.). However, Sarachik does not specifically teach said reference information includes a URL that designates a Web site/page on the Internet.

Abrahams teaches a similar system for interactive television, wherein reference information including a URL that designates a web site on the Internet is sent to a viewer (Paragraph 0049-0050).

21. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the suggested system of Sarachik, Tomsen, and Zernik with the teachings of Abrahams to send reference information including a URL that designates a web site on the Internet. The motivation for the

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suggested combination is that Abrahams' teachings would allow a user to access additional information regarding an object of the interest by accessing information on the Internet (Paragraph 0050).

Conclusion

22. A shortened statutory period for reply to this Office action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action.

23. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joshua Joo whose telephone number is 571 272-3966. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Thursday 8AM to 5PM and every other Friday.

24. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nathan J. Flynn can be reached on 571 272-1915. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

25. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

September 13, 2007
JJ

NATHAN FLYNN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER